Outcome Assessment Information Set (OASIS) Update (Memo #9)

Date: September 17, 1999   **DSL-BQA-99-055**
To: Home Health Agencies   **HHA 24**
From: Sue Schroeder, Director, Bureau of Quality Assurance

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information related to the federal Outcome ASsessment Information Set (OASIS) implementation and monitoring activities. A copy of the August 25, 1999, federal Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) memorandum is attached for your reference.

The federal Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) announced the effective date for the mandatory use, collection, encoding and transmission of OASIS data for all Medicare/Medicaid patients receiving skilled care from home health agencies in a *Federal Register* notice *(Volume 64, No. 117)* published June 18, 1999.

For non-Medicare/non-Medicaid patients receiving skilled services, there will be no encoding and transmission until further notice; however, home health agencies must conduct comprehensive assessments and updates at the required time points. For patients receiving personal care only services, regardless of payer source, HCFA has delayed the requirements regarding OASIS collection, encoding and transmission until further notice.

NOTE: Patients receiving Medicaid medication management are considered skilled services for the purposes of OASIS. Therefore, OASIS data collection, encoding and transmission apply.

Effective July 19, 1999, all home health agencies participating in the Medicare/Medicaid programs were required to initiate the use of the standardized assessment data set, OASIS, as summarized in the following chart:

Summary of Mandatory Collection, Encoding, and Transmission Dates for OASIS

Patient Classification	Collection Effective Date	Encoding Effective Date	Transmission Effective Date
Medicare[1]/Medicaid[2] – Skilled	July 19, 1999	July 19, 1999	August 24, 1999
Non-Medicare/Non- Medicaid[3] – Skilled	July 19, 1999	Spring 2000	Spring 2000[4]
Medicaid[5] – Personal Care Only	Spring 2000	Spring 2000	Spring 2000
Non-Medicaid[3] – Personal Care Only	Spring 2000	Spring 2000	Spring 2000[4]
• Patients under age 18; • Patients receiving pre & post partum maternity services; • Patients receiving only chore and housekeeping services	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded

[1] OASIS item (M0150) Current Payment Sources for Home Care: response 1 or 2.
[2] OASIS item (M0150) Current Payment Sources for Home Care: response 3 or 4.
[3] OASIS item (M0150) Current Payment Sources for Home Care: response 0, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or UK.
[4] Data transmitted with masked identifiers.
[5] OASIS item (M0150) Current Payment Sources for Home Care: response 3.

The Bureau of Quality Assurance will be taking a graduated approach to monitoring through the offsite and onsite activities outlined in the attached HCFA memorandum for collection and reporting of OASIS data items during the OASIS start-up time. For the purpose of OASIS enforcement, the start-up time will run from now to the end of the calendar year 1999.

Please direct any questions you may have regarding OASIS data collection and onsite monitoring issues to Barbara Woodford, OASIS Educational Coordinator, at (715) 855-7310. Questions related to OASIS data transmission and offsite monitoring should be directed to Chris Benesh, OASIS Automation Coordinator at (608) 266-1718.